

Rogue River Courier

DAILY EDITION

VOL. VI., No. 145.

GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1916.

WHOLE NUMBER 1699.

No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

TEUTON NOTE MAY BE THE LAST WORD

Suggestion Made in Memorandum Handed the State Dept. That Allied Concessions Might Modify Decree

Washington, Mar. 8.—Germany's latest memorandum, delivered to the state department today, may be its "last word" in the armed liner controversy.

The memorandum may be summarized in two sentences. The fact that it was delivered today is regarded as significant, immediately following, as it does, the congressional vote to leave further negotiations to President Wilson and the state department.

The suggestion that allied concessions might modify the kaiser's decree of war without mercy against armed liners was renewed in the note.

This is interpreted as showing Germany hopes America may resume its attempt to have the allies disarm merchant ships, permitting further discussion of the question.

Washington, Mar. 8.—Ambassador von Bernstorff's memorandum on the armed liner controversy, handed Secretary Lansing today, gave full explanation of the reasons for the decree ordering submarines to torpedo armed belligerent ships without warning.

The German memorandum said the decree was necessitated by the numerous violations of international law on the part of the allies. Great Britain was named as an especial offender.

The memorandum said the United States had acknowledged these violations.

Great Britain's blockade of Germany as specified as being contrary to international law in that it kept neutral trade from German ports and made export of German goods impossible.

The blockade, according to the memorandum, hampers trade between neutrals by extending the contraband provisions.

Other alleged offenses named were the interception of mail, with intent to halt German intercourse with foreign countries, the attempt to starve civilians of the central powers by restricting neutral trade and the taking prisoner of German civilians on the high seas.

Allied merchant ships, the document charged, were armed for offensive, not for defensive, purposes.

All these charges except one are justified, the memorandum alleges, by specifically quoted American

(Continued on page 3)

ENGLAND REPLIES TO GERMAN CHARGE

Washington, March 8.—State department advices today said Ambassador Page in London had received England's reply to the German charge that a submarine crew was murdered by British sailors on the steamer Baralong.

Page will send the note to Berlin through Ambassador Gerard.

The evidence America secured from the crew of the steamer Nicolson promises to be a turning point in the dispute. Great Britain's note courts fullest investigation and asks for an impartial inquiry. It denies Baralong sailors fired on the submarine crew as they swam helplessly in the water.

MILLIONAIRES IN N. Y. PROTECTED FROM ASSASSINS

New York, Mar. 8.—Threats from would-be assassins and bomb plotters have so terrorized millionaires that they are spending thousands daily to protect their lives, families and property, it was learned today.

The financial districts are honey-combed with high price "shadows" who always dog the footsteps of Daniel G. Reid, Judge E. H. Gary, Vincent Astor, Henry Claws, Charles M. Schwab, Henry C. Frick and others.

Two trim women, apparently chatting social small talk, hustle along, watching every one. Inside their carelessly dangled fur muffs are automatic pistols. They are Frick's guards and are never 20 feet away from him. Men shadow him too.

Since J. P. Morgan was shot, he has built up an intricate system of defense. Encasing his own offices and those in adjoining buildings are roofs of bomb-proof steel nets. Tests have proved that high explosives can do no more than dent them.

The stock exchange is similarly netted. Morgan employs over a score of "shadows."

A veritable army of men always shadow E. S. du Pont head of the big munitions works. The British consulate and all big hotels are closely guarded.

SENATOR LANE SOUNDS ALARM

Washington, Mar. 8.—Senator Lane told the senate today that the Shields water power bill proposes to give the nation's last great resource practically free to a few privileged citizens.

"We have given away our coal, our timber has passed into the hands of a few, our petroleum is all but gone—the prices of all three commodities are constantly rising," Lane said. "Now we are asked for the sake of development to give away our water power resources for almost nothing. The people will pay ten times over for any advantage they get out of this development."

Lane's amendment to the bill was defeated. Over the objection of Senator Chamberlain, the house lands committee approved amendment to the Myers bill, which conservationists charge paralyzed the sections designed to protect the public.

GRAND JURY WILL PROBE TONG WAR

San Francisco, Mar. 8.—A special session of the grand jury will be held tonight to devise some means of guarding Chinatown against further tong war outbreaks.

All was quiet in the Chinese quarter today. Highbinders remained concealed, fearing arrest, while others were afraid to venture into the streets. Posters were boldly blazoned on walls, urging gunmen to be sure of their victims' identities before shooting.

A large number of wealthy Chinese plan to attend the grand jury session and to offer suggestions.

NO NEW GEOGRAPHY TILL THE WAR IS OVER

Sacramento, Mar. 8.—The state board of education had planned to issue a new text book on geography this year, but it was announced today that no new book will be issued until the European war is over and the boundaries of the belligerent countries finally determined.

BIG GAINS BY GERMANS IN BATTLE OF VERDUN

Kaiser's Army Makes Greatest Advance Last Night Since the Attack Commenced, and Captured Forges, Regneville, Raben and Cumieres Heights Near the French Fortress, Also Taking Many Prisoners and Guns

Berlin, Mar. 8.—West of Regneville, on the west bank of the Meuse river, the Germans have stormed a front of three and one-half miles below Bethincourt for a gain of nearly two miles, it was officially announced today. Last night's gains were the largest since the battle for Verdun began.

The capture of Regneville, seven miles northwest of Verdun, and Forges, eight miles northwest, was claimed officially. Positions on Raben heights and in the Cumieres woods were also declared to have been seized.

Germans drove the French from the few houses they still held in Fresnes, capturing 700.

Berlin, Mar. 8.—German captures of Forges, Regneville, Raben and Cumieres heights were officially announced today.

Ten cannon, 3,227 men and 58 officers were taken, it was asserted.

Paris, Mar. 8.—Heavy artillery dueling continued last night on both banks of the Meuse, it was officially announced today. The situation north of Verdun was reported unchanged.

The cannonade was heaviest northwest of Verdun, where the Germans are believed preparing for an attempt to capture Goose hill and "Dead Man's" hill.

Infantrymen stayed in their trenches northwest of Verdun last night, while Germans shelled French positions, the communique said. Regarding other operations, it announced:

"East of Maison de Champagne we recaptured trenches which the enemy took last Monday and took 85 prisoners."

Along the Manheulles railway and road, near Fresnes, several German attacks broke down under artillery fire. The French artillery devoted its attention principally to Blancy and Rimencourt, east of Fort Moulinville.

London, Mar. 8.—Under a storm of shells from three sides, a handful of French troops are still holding the ruins of Regneville, seven miles northwest of Verdun, dispatches from Paris declared.

As part of their major "nutcracker" attack against Verdun, the German crown prince's men have driven in wedges on each side of Regneville, so the village is almost two-thirds surrounded and in danger of being crushed.

From their newly-won positions on the east bank of the Meuse, the Germans are hurling tons of projectiles into the village. Covered by this fire, German engineers are trying to throw pontoon bridges across the Meuse just south of Regneville. Thousands of Teuton soldiers are held in reserve close by, ready to charge across the bridges and into the town.

French aeroplanes, hovering over the German lines, have returned to headquarters with reports which convince the French leaders that the crown prince is about to renew his onslaughts against General Petain's center at Douaumont. They also look for an attempt to advance from Fresnes, reported captured yesterday.

Repeated German infantry attacks on the summit of Goose hill have failed. Their dead carpet the slopes. Heavy Teuton artillery is being hurried forward to blast the French from the crown of this eminence and clear the way for a successful infantry charge.

The loss of Forges and of Hill 265 is not regarded by the allies as very important, but critics are warning them the Germans may make their boldest strike in that region, northwest of Verdun.

In order to continue their advance, the Germans must charge up the side of Goose hill. In anticipation of such a smash, the French have made the 1,000 yards of barren, rocky slope into a veritable death trap. Every foot of it is mined, and behind the French lines engineers wait to touch electric buttons which would send whole sections of the district skyward in a burst of flame and hurl hundreds of men into eternity at a single blow.

Besides these mines, the ground is covered with a maze of barbed wire entanglements and cut up with pitfalls.

Troops could make but slow progress over it, and as they advanced among mines, pitfalls and barbed wire, they would be constantly exposed to a concentrated fire from all the French machine guns on Goose hill. It is estimated it would cost the Germans 10,000 lives to storm Goose hill, but critics admit it might be worth the price.

Berlin is strangely silent regarding the most important fighting to the northwest of Verdun. Even French reports of German gains are not confirmed by Berlin. The messages from the German capital are chiefly with regard to preparations

(Continued on page 3.)

DILLEN WAS HUGO SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Hugo, Ore., Mar. 8.—School Director Chas. L. Dillen was instantly killed yesterday afternoon, and his son-in-law, George Barrett, was seriously injured in an auto collision with a southbound Southern Pacific freight train at a road crossing about two hundred yards north of the station at Hugo.

The railroad at this point runs virtually north and south. Approaching the crossing from the west, the front seat of the auto was occupied by Mr. Dillen and Mr. Barrett the latter acting as driver. In the rear seat, until a few moments before the collision, were Mrs. Dillen and Mrs. Barrett. West of the track, and within thirty yards of it, the auto stopped, the ladies alighted and the car started ahead. The freight engine was then about 75 yards north of the crossing and was moving perhaps ten miles an hour.

Seeing his danger, Mr. Barrett set the brakes, and for a moment the wheels skidded, but within a yard began again to revolve and the machine started forward with accelerated speed. The locomotive engineer blew a number of short blasts of the whistle, and Mr. Barrett, having lost control of the brakes, attempted to turn to the left. He was too late, for the right fore-wheel of the auto mounted the west rail of the track just as the pilot of the engine reached that point.

At the moment of collision Mr. Dillen either jumped or was thrown from the machine. He was caught in the wreckage and dragged with it until the engine was brought to a standstill, about a hundred feet south of the crossing. His head and the upper

(Continued on page 2)

POLICE EXPECT TO GET SLAYERS OF VERNON LINDSAY

Tacoma, Mar. 8.—Description of the five yeggmen who Tuesday shot to death Vernon Lindsay in a rooming house here, were sent out by the police today and it is believed they will soon be arrested.

Patrolman Nix engaged in a fight with the gang in a Tacoma avenue hotel Monday night, a short time after Lindsay was riddled with bullets a few blocks away. Nix tried to arrest one of the men for firing his revolver on the street, not knowing at the time of the murder. While Nix was telephoning police headquarters for help, the five men made their escape. The police theory is that they are yeggmen and that Lindsay was shot to death in a quarrel over the division of loot or fear that he intended to expose their operations.

Vernon Lindsay, the young man murdered in Tacoma Tuesday, was born in the Murphy district 20 years ago. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Lindsay, pioneer residents of the Applegate valley. The young man left here about two years ago and went to Tacoma, where he was employed as a salesman for a tea and coffee house, and received good wages. In a recent letter to his parents, he stated that he was attending night school as a good position was open to him as soon as he improved somewhat in penmanship. He was a cripple, having lost one leg through the ravages of tuberculosis. The father came in from Murphy this morning, after learning through the Courier of the killing of his son, and is arranging to have the body shipped here for burial. From a description of the dead man wired him today by Mayor Fawcett of Tacoma, Mr. Lindsay says that he has no doubts about the identity of the body. He believes that his son was killed by the yeggmen for robbery, and that he was not party to their operations, as the police of Tacoma seem to infer.

ENGLAND'S FORMER FIRST SEA LORD AT COUNCIL

London, Mar. 8.—Sir John Fisher, former first sea lord, attended today's meeting of the British war council. In some quarters it was suggested he was summoned to learn if his views on naval operations coincided with those of Colonel Winston Churchill, former first lord of the admiralty. Others saw a possibility of Sir John resuming his former post in command of the British navy.

GERMAN WARSHIP FLEET SEEN MONDAY

London, Mar. 8.—Twenty-nine German battleships were encountered off Ymuiden on Monday by a Dutch lugger, according to the newspaper Vaderland, said Rotterdam dispatches today. They inquired as to the whereabouts of the English fleet, and then steered north by northeast. A flotilla of destroyers accompanied them. The main fleet was composed of dreadnaughts.

Ymuiden is on the western coast of Holland. In order to reach it the 29 battleships reported at sea must have cruised several hundred miles from their base.

TUITION AT WASHINGTON STATE U. HELD LEGAL

Olympia, Wash., Mar. 8.—The state supreme court today decided that the legislative act requiring tuition at the state university was constitutional. The test case, brought by a former student, sought to prove that the institution was discriminatory against poor people.

WILL RENEW TALK WITH KAISER

Action of Congress Clears Way for President to Negotiate With Germany Over the Submarine Controversy

Washington, Mar. 8.—With his hands unshackled by the action of congress in refusing to warn Americans off armed belligerent liners, President Wilson today prepared to resume his submarine negotiations with Germany. Prompt action in both the German and the British controversies is expected.

While seeking more definite German assurances with regard to the Teuton armed merchantman campaign, and urging an immediate execution of the Lusitania and Arabic reparations pledges, the administration will investigate the alleged secret orders of the British admiralty for armed ships to attack submarines on sight. State department experts have translated the appendices submitted to this government by Germany in support of the claim that such orders exist. With photographic copies of the alleged orders, the appendices are ready for action by Secretary Lansing.

German Ambassador von Bernstorff arranged to confer with Lansing at 11 o'clock.

All adherents of the administration expressed satisfaction with the house vote tabling McLeMORE's warning resolution.

The final ballot of 276 to 143 demonstrated to the satisfaction of administration supporters that congress stands behind the president in his feelings toward Europe.

Congress still seethed today on the armed liner issue. It was believed another debate might break out at any time and continue indefinitely. Several representatives are expected to seize the first opportunity of explaining their votes on the warning measure.

Senator Stone has definitely prepared his explanation, and it may be delivered soon.

Bickering over the effect of the house vote promises to continue. Those opposed to the administration argued that the merits of the real issue—whether Americans should be warned to keep off armed liners—were still unsettled. The agitation for such a warning is expected to continue, but the chance that there will be another vote on the proposition is remote.

Advocates of a warning pointed out the roll calls showed there was a real division between President Wilson and congress on the armed liner policy of the president.

The White House, however, felt there was no danger of Germany misconstruing the president's support in congress. The political effect of the contest is in doubt.

More defections besides those of Congressmen Page and Sherwood are expected. Republicans, it is believed, will enlarge on the administration's refusal to permit a vote on the merits of issuing a warning.

FORD MACHINE CALLED AUTOMOBILE IN COMPLAINT

Salem, Mar. 8.—"This is a suit to recover a Ford machine, called in the complaint an automobile," said the supreme court, deciding a replevin action in favor of the defendant.

TEN PRISONERS PAROLED

Salem, Mar. 8.—Governor Withycombe issued ten paroles in a bunch today to prisoners in the state penitentiary.